PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims

A complete listing of the claims follows. Please amend claims 15, 23, and 26-28 as indicated below. All other claims remain the same as originally presented in the application.

1. (Original) A method for generating a file object identifier comprising the steps:

(a) allocating memory for said identifier;

(b) storing in said allocated memory the value of the disk volume holding the file object;

(c) storing in said allocated memory the value of the disk block holding the file object; and

(d) storing in said allocated memory the value of the offset within said disk block holding the file object, said offset computed in multi-byte increments.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said file object is one of a file, a directory, and a symbolic link.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said memory allocated for said identifier is 32 bits.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the disk volume holding the file object is stored in 4 bits of said allocated memory.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the disk block holding the file object is stored in 23 bits of said allocated memory.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the offset within said disk block holding the file object is stored in 5 bits of said allocated memory.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the multi-byte offset increment within said disk block holding the file object is at least 128 bytes.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.

9. (Original) A method for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object identifier having a second bit size comprising the steps:

(a) receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) transforming said first file object identifier into said second file object identifier based on at least one file system characteristic; and

(c) providing said second file object identifier to facilitate access to said file object.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said file object is one of a file, a directory, and a symbolic link.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said second bit size is less than said first bit size.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said first file object identifier comprises a disk volume value, a disk block value and a block offset value.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the number of disks available in any logical volume to a 4 bit value.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the address granularity within a disk block to at least 32 bytes.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting file object lengths to at least 128 bytes.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said second file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.

17. (Original) An article of manufacture having computer-readable program means embodied therein for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object

identifier having a second bit size, the article comprising:

(a) computer-readable program means for receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) computer-readable program means for transforming said first file object identifier into said second file object identifier based on at least one file system characteristic; and

(c) computer-readable programs means for providing said second file object identifier to facilitate access to said file object.

18. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said file object is one of a file, a directory, and a symbolic link.

19. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said second bit size is less than said first bit size.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said first file object identifier comprises a disk volume value, a disk block value and a block offset value.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the number of disks available in any logical volume to a 4 bit value.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting the address granularity within a disk block to at least 32 bytes.

23. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said at least one file system characteristic comprises limiting file object lengths to at least 128 bytes.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 17 wherein said second file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.

25. (Original) A fault-tolerant computer having a proprietary operating system and support for standards-compliant file operations comprising:

two central processing units (CPUs), operating synchronously;

two memory modules, each associated with one of said CPUs;

an operating system, providing operating system functionality and comprising a standards-compliant interface and a proprietary interface; and

an application program, invoking said standards-compliant interface.

26. (Currently amended) The fault-tolerant computer of claim 2522 wherein said proprietary operating system is Stratus Virtual Operating System (VOS).

27. (Currently amended) The fault-tolerant computer of claim 2522 wherein said standards-compliant file operations are POSIX file operations.

28. (Currently amended) The fault-tolerant computer of claim 2522 wherein said standards-compliant interface is a POSIX interface.

29. (Original) A method for mapping a first file object identifier having a first bit size to a second file object identifier having a second bit size comprising the steps:

(a) receiving said first file object identifier associated with a file object;

(b) extracting a disk block value and a disk volume value from said first file object identifier;

(c) locating a file object in a location on a disk specified by said extracted disk block value and said extracted disk volume value;

(d) computing a temporary file object identifier for said located file object;

(e) iterating step (d) for file objects in said specified location on the disk until the temporary file object identifier matches said first file object identifier;

(f) computing a second file object identifier for said file object with said temporary file object identifier matching said first file object identifier; and

(g) providing said second file object identifier.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein said first file object identifier is a POSIX file serial number.